My prayer to the Government is that it should show some grace and it should show some magnanimity. The man is dead. Do not prosecute the man if he is dead and gone. He is not in a position to defend himself.

I would not like to join the Congress Members in their walkout.

Thank you.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal) : He joins in the demand of the Congress but not in the walkout.

Setting up of F.B.I. Liaision Office in India by United States

SHRI K.R. MALKANI (Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to draw the attention of this august House to a disturbing piece of news. On the 15th of November, the Observer of Business and Politics carried a front-page lead story. It says:

"FBI set to open office in India to keep tab on Islamic Ultras."

The report further goes on to say that from '94 to '96, when there was Mr. Rao's Government in the country, an unofficial office of the FBI was running in this country. Subsequently, the report says, when Mr. Deve Gowda became Prime Minister,he asked them to go. The F.B.I. now not only wants to come back unofficially, but officially and set up an office here. ...*(Interruption)*... The F.B.I. is the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the equivalant of our Intelligence Bureau, the C.B.I. and many such agencies put together.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal) : To open an office for espionage is not advisable.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Of course, setting up of offices by all these secret investigative agencies in foreign countries is not advisable. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Sir, the report says that the FBI wants to set up its shop in India to monitor the activities of Islamic fundamentalism. We are all opposed to fundamentalism of all kinds, whether Islamic or any other, but it is the job of the Government of India to monitor these activities in India just as it is the job of the FBI to monitor their activities in America. USA can share their information with us and we can share our information

with them. But, the point is, how can they be allowed to set up shop in India. Allowing the F.B.I. to set up its office in India, as I see it, will seriously compromise the sovereignty of India. Our IB and CBI do not have offices in America.

Why should the American intelligence outfits have their presence here?

It is wrong in principle; there is another factor as well. Our experience with the F.B.I., if I may say so, has been very unhappy. In 1984, Air India's airliner, KANISHKA, blew up over the Atlantic; subsequent investigations in Canada revealed that the people who blew up that plane had had their training in USA, in an outfit run by the F.B.I. This organisation had informed about it all to its superiors in the F.B.I. that this was going to happen. Neither the US Government, nor did the F.B.I. informed us or Canada about it.

A question on this issue was raised in this very House in 1984. The then Government's explanation was: "Yes, the F.B.I. knew about it, but we do not know whether the US Government knew it" as though the F.B.I. and US Government were two different things. This being the background, in principle and otherwise, we should not allow the F.B.I. to set up shop, officially or unofficially, in India. I hope the report is correct. If it is not correct, the Government should clarify its position either now or later.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate myself with what Mr. Malkani has said.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA (Bihar) : Sir, I also associate with him.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I may please be allowed to speak on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can associate, not speak.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: But, Sir, they have been speaking. *(Interruptions)* I am not going to make a long speech, Sir. I will be very short.

The point is very simple. I wholeheartedly compliment Shri Malkani for raising this important issue. If the report is true that the Government has allowed or is going to allow the F.B.I. to set up its office here, it will tantamount to compromising the sovereignty of India.

Sir, I have one more report. I do not know if it is true. Mr. Jaswant Singh, our respected friend, looking after the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, had a talk recently with Mr. Talbott on many subjects, including this one.

Sir, why should the F.B.I. have its office in India? If they are to do their investigations, they can do so on their own. Sir, they want to set up an office in India, not because they would like to look into the role of Muslim fundamentalism, but because they would like to seriously monitor India's political developments. They would like to fish in troubled waters. They would like to build up their own connections. They would like to build up their own friendship with the pliant political leaders and they would like to create a situation where India's freedom and sovereignty is seriously weakened. I not only ask the Government to clarify on this, but also demand that the Government must not,under any circumstances, allow such a notorious organisation to set up its office here. The F.B.I. had been involved in the assassination of a number of leading political statesmen in the world. FBI has been responsible for sponsoring training programme for the Kashmiri militants in some parts of the world. FBI has been responsible for providing funds to the pliant political organisations in India. FBI is known for poking its nose in different Asian countries. Therefore, let us know the history, let us know what developments have taken place in the world after the FBI set up its offices in different countries. I believe Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Hon. Prime Minister, will not take this dangerous course; and Mr. Jaswant Singh, the Foreign Minister, will not be instrumental in bartering away India's sovereign rights. ....*(Interruptions)*.... Will he respond?

MR CHAIRMAN: I will ask him to respond.

***श्री मोहम्मद सलीम** (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, अब ज्यादा बोलने की जरूरत नहीं है । मलकानी जी और मि0 गुरुदास दास गुप्त जी बोल चुके हैं । एफ0बी0आई0 को यहां आने की परमीशन देने के सवाल पर, उस के ऑफिसियल आने की बात पर, देवगौड़ा जी के समय, संयुक्त मोर्चा सरकार के समय प्रधान मंत्री के दफ्तर से यह कहा गया था कि यहां दुकान बंद करो, यह नहीं चलने वाली है और आज फिर जब यहां उन्हें लाने की बात की जा रही है No less than the Prime Minister's Office is involved. क्योकि दूसरे कोई श्री जसवंत सिंह जी या आडवाणी जी परमीशन दे दें या होम मिनिस्ट्री के अंदर कोई जॉइंट

* Transliteration of the speech in Persian Script is available in the Hindi version of the Debate.

सेक्रेटरी या अंडर सेक्रेटरी ने परमीशन देदी, यह बात नहीं है । एफ०बी०आई० के बारे में मैं डिटेल्ड नहीं बोलूंगा क्योंकि वह बोल चुके हैं, लेकिन लॉ एंड ऑर्डर का सवाल कांस्टीट्यूशनली स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का होता है और हमारे सॉवेरन राइट को सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट या यूनियन गवर्नमेंट को एक्सरसाइज करना है । विदेशी एजेंसीज जिनकी स्पेशलाइज्ड एक्टिविटी दूसरे मुल्क के अंदर इंटरनल एरेंजमेंट्स - पॉलिटिकल एंड अदर्स को डिस्टेबिलाइज करना है। अफगानिस्तान से लेकर आज इंडियन सब-कांटीनेंट में ग्रोइंग अमेरिकन इंटरेस्ट और उस से ज्यादा हमें खतरा लग रहा है हिंदुस्तानी हुकूमत का, गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया का ग्रोइंग इंटरेस्ट in inviting U.S and its agencies who are engaged in clandestine operation सर, यही हमारा खतरा है और इस में पार्लियामेंट में क्लैरीफिकेशंस का सवाल नहीं है बल्कि प्रधान मंत्रीजी को आकर यह कहना पड़ेगा कि हिंदुस्तान में एफ०बी०आई० का कोई बिजनेस नहीं है । दिल्ली या पूरे हिंदुस्तान के अंदर उन को एक जगह भी दफ्तर खोलने की इजाजत नहीं होगी, यह उन को कहना पड़ेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**....

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is all right. Now, let the Leader of the House say something.

विदेश मंत्री (श्री जसवंत सिंह) : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्यों ने बहुत सारी बातें कह डालीं और वह सभी कुछ अखबारों पर आधारित किसी रपट को लेकर कही हैं । अच्छा होता, अगर माननीय सदस्य को कोई शिकायत है, कोई ख्वाइश है या कुछ पूछना है तो सीधा हम से पूछ लेते । खत लिखकर नहीं तो टेलिफोन उठाकर पूछ लेते ....**(व्यवधान)**....

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : What is this? Private discussion cannot replace parliamentary discussion. Whatever he is .....*(Interruption)*.....

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : कहीं भी मिल लेते - पेरिस, डेबोस या जेनेवा में, यह तो सदन में बात हो रही है । ...(व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सभापति जी, यह कोई व्यक्तिगत मामला नहीं है । यह राष्ट्र की अस्मिता और स्वतंत्रता से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है । इस को हमें गंभीरता से लेना चाहिए ।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : I understand that he is embarrassed.

श्री जसवंत सिंह : यही कोशिश कर रहा हूं । ...**(व्यवधान)**... बिल्कुल नहीं, कोई बैरिस्टर नहीं क्योंकि मसला बिल्कुल साफ है । कुछ माननीय सदस्यों का कहना है कि

एफ0बी0आई0 का दफ्तर है, एफ0बी0आई0 का दफ्तर नहीं है ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसा नहीं कहा होगा । आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए । यह कहा कि यह सरकार एफ0बी0आई0 का दफ्तर खुलवाने जा रही है, ऐसा नहीं है । एक माननीय सदस्य ने तो ऐसे इल्जाम लगा दिया कि मैं मुल्क के खिलाफ कुछ करने जा रहा हूं । तब तो मैं इस योग्य नहीं कि मैं सदन में ही रहूं । माननीय सदस्य ने स्टॉलब्रोट से जो मेरी बातचीत हुई, उन की जानकारी है कि इस मसले पर विचार हुआ है । शायद उन को मुझसे ज्यादा जानकारी है कि किस मसले पर विचार हुआ है । तो माननीय सभापति जी, मैं स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूं यहां एफ0बी0आई का दफ्तर नहीं है, अभी ऐसे दफ्तर की हमारे पास दरख्वास्त नहीं है । आगे जो कुछ भी होगा, वह देश के हित में होगा । ...**(व्यवधान)**...सुन तो लीजिए, सुन लीजिए ।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Government agree? We would like to know if the Government would say, "We shall never allow it." Let it be categoric. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जसवन्त सिंह : सभापति जी, अब माननीय सदस्य चाहते हैं कि सवाल भी वही पूछें और जवाब भी मैं ऐसा दूं, जैसा वह चाहते हैं । यह तो कठिन है ।

श्री गुरूदास दासगुप्त : हमारे लिए नहीं, देश के लिए। We know how to fight it--the FBI and the Americans. We know that.

श्री जसवन्त सिंह : सर, जो कुछ होगा वह देश के हित में होगा और जो कुछ होगा उससे देश की कोई मानहानि नहीं होगी, यह मैं आपको आश्वासन दे सकता हूँ ।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, he is completely ambiguous. The statement of the Minister is completely ambiguous. It does not say that the Government will not have it.

SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Sir, I am on a point of clarification. I am very happy to hear the hon. Minister say that the FBI office does not exist and there is no such proposal before the Government. I am very happy to hear that. But, I would like to state that this is not a matter for private discussion between Mr. Jaswant Singh and Malkani. When a report of this kind appears, I think it is the duty of the Government of India to clarify the matter and tell the Country what the position is. Thank you very much.

MR.CHAIRMAN: Now, the next special mention. ...*(Interruption)*.... Mr. Chitharanjan.